# FORD, MILLER & WAINER, P.A.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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June 27, 2011

### <u>VIA CERTIFIED LETTER,</u> <u>RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED</u>

Attn: Chief, Section of Administration Surface Transportation Board Office of Proceedings 395 East Street, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20423-0001 ENTERED Office of Proceedings

JUL 05 2011

Part of Public Record

RE:

Portland & Western Railroad, Inc. – Petition for Declaratory Order-Certain Rates & Practices as Applied to RK Storage & Warehousing

STB Docket No. FD35406

Dear Chief:

Please accept my correspondence as a respectful reminder that the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Multnomah ("the State Court"), which properly referred the instant demurrage and service-related matter to the Surface Transportation Board ("STB"), has requested that the STB render its decision in this matter no later than July 28, 2011. As discussed in my February 15, 2011 correspondence, a copy of which is enclosed for your reference, the State Court entered an Order on February 7, 2011 allowing an abatement of the action only through July 28, 2011.

Although Portland & Western Railroad, Inc. ("PNWR") hopes that this would not be the case, PNWR fears that the State Court will proceed with this matter without the benefit of having the STB's input if a decision is not rendered by July28, 2011. In the event that the STB does not intend or will be unable to render a decision by this date, please provide me with a timeframe during which the STB anticipates likely rendering a decision in this matter so that I may forward this information to the State Court in an effort to obtain an additional abatement.

Thank you in advance for your consideration, and please let me know if you require anything further.

Sincerely, P. Carribell Ford

P. Campbell Ford

Enclosure/Original and 10 copies of February 15, 2011 correspondence

C: Larry Davidson (1 copy only) Timothy J. Coleman (1 copy only)

## FORD, MILLER & WAINER, P.A.

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MARK R. MILLER miller@fordmiller.com

February 15, 2011

FEB 18 2011

<u>Part of</u>

### **VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL**

Attn: Chief, Section of Administration
Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

Portland & Western Railroad, Inc. – Petition for Declaratory Order-

Certain Rates & Practices as Applied to RK Storage & Warehousing,

Inc.

STB Docket No. FD35406

Dear Chief:

RE:

Pursuant to the February 7, 2011 Order entered by the Circuit Court of the State of Oregon for the County of Multnomah ("State Court"), a copy of which is enclosed for your reference, we are respectfully placing the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") on notice of the entry of this Order.

Pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 11705, Portland & Western Railroad, Inc. ("PNWR") was required to initiate the action in State Court, and then seek a transfer to the Surface Transportation Board ("STB") of the demurrage and service-related issues that fall within its exclusive jurisdiction. Upon transferring these issues to the STB, the State Court abated the State Court action for one (1) year. Due to, inter alia, the voluminous nature of the documents PNWR was required to obtain and analyze from different offices across the United States and having to locate witnesses, some of which had retired from PNWR, it took approximately six (6) months for PNWR to prepare its case to present it to the STB in one shot. The Respondent then requested a two-month extension to reply to the Petition. As the expiration of the abatement was approaching, PNWR filed a Motion to Continue the Abatement in the State Court. The state court indicated that it would abate the case for another six (6) months and instructed PNWR to advise the STB of this deadline and request a decision prior to the expiration of the abatement on July 28, 2011.

If the STB does not reach a decision by July 28, 2011, PNWR fears that the State Court will not grant PNWR another abatement and will instead, require PNWR to try the case at the State Court level and then enter its own decision as to the demurrage and rail service issues that are before the STB in this matter.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter and please let me know if you require anything further.

Singerely,

. Ampbell ford

P. Campbell Ford

Enclosure/

Original and 10 copies of February 7, 2011 Order from state court

C: Larry Davidson (1 copy only)
Timothy J. Coleman (1 copy only)

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3	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON		
4	FOR THE COUNTY OF MULTNOMAH		
5	PORTLAND & WESTERN RAILROAD, INC.,	Case No. 0907-10	274
6 7	Plaintiff, v.	ORDER	REGIVE 7 2011
8	RK STORAGE & WAREHOUSING, INC.,	ENTERED	ANGEL LOPEZ
9	Defendant.	FEB 1 0 2011	CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE
10	.IN REGISTER BY CESE was heard at ex parte on		
11			
12	January 28, 2011. Plaintiff appeared through its attorneys P. Campbell Ford and		
13	Nicholas E. Wheeler. Defendant appeared through its attorney Larry R. Davidson. The		
14	court, after reviewing the parties' briefing and hearing argument from counsel, hereby		
15	ORDERS:		
16	1. Plaintiff's motion is GRANTED IN PART. The abatement of this case is		
17	extended for six additional months to July 28, 2011; and		
18	2. The parties are ordered to advise the Surface Transportation Board of the		
19	extended abatement deadline and request the STB's decision before that date.		
20	DATED this day of February, 2011		
21			
22	Circl from		
23	The Acti	Honorable Angel Loping Presiding Court Jud	ez dge
24	Submitted by: Nicholas E. Wheeler, OSB No. 044491 Of Attorneys for Plaintiff		
25			
26			

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#### **CERTIFICATE PURSUANT TO UTCR 5.100(2)** 1 I hereby certify that service of the foregoing Order was made on the date and 2 in the manner indicated below, upon opposing counsel not less than 3 days prior to submission to the court and/or was mailed to any unrepresented party at the party's - 3 last known address not less than 7 days prior to submission to the court, complying with the requirements of UTCR 5.100, in accordance with the certificate of service below. 5 **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE** 6 I hereby certify that I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing ORDER on 7 the date indicated below by: 8 X mail with postage prepaid, deposited in the US mail at Portland, Oregon, Q hand delivery. 10 facsimile transmission, 11 overnight delivery, 12 X email. 13 If served by facsimile transmission, attached to this certificate is the printed 14 confirmation of receipt of the document(s) generated by the transmitting machine. I 15 further certify that said copy was placed in a sealed envelope delivered as indicated 16 above and addressed to said attorney(s) at the address(es) listed below: 17 Larry R. Davidson VIA U.S. MAIL Attorney at Law 1850 Benjamin Franklin Plaza One SW Columbia Street Portland, OR 97258 20 . Of Attorneys for Defendant 21 Campbell Ford VIA EMAIL Ford, Miller & Wainer, PA 1835 North Third Street 23 Jacksonville, FL 32250 Of Attorneys for Plaintiff, Pro Hac Vice 24 DATED: January 31, 2011 25

Page 1 - CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

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